

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Intelligence Information Cable

ROUTINE

IN 17221

15a

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DIST 22 JULY 1967

Mandatory Review

Case # NLJ 00-138

Document # 15a

COUNTRY: PANAMA

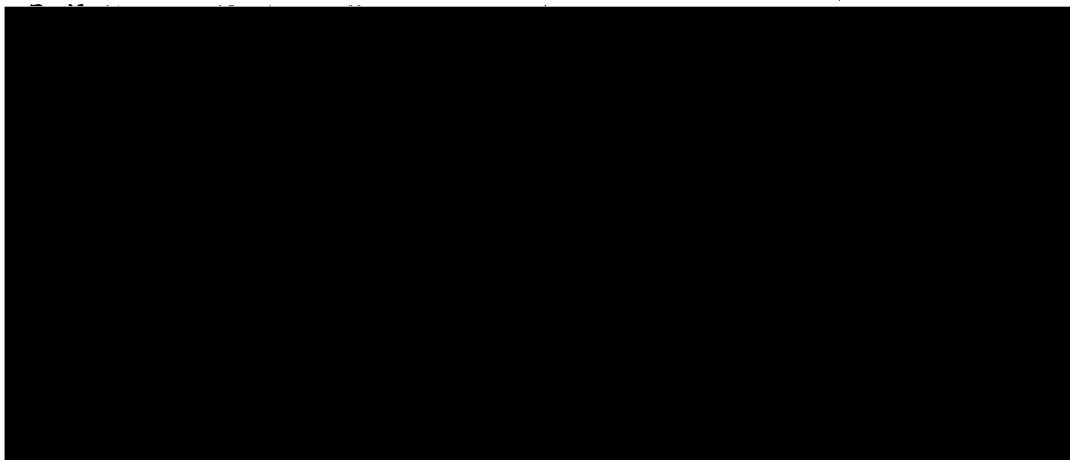
DOI: 21 JULY 1967

EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

SUBJECT: REPUBLICAN PARTY POSITION ON RATIFICATION OF CANAL  
TREATIES

PADA:

SOURCE:



EO 12958 3.4(b)(1)>25Yrs  
(C)

1. PR LEADERS HAVE NOT YET TAKEN A POSITION ON THE NEW CANAL TREATIES OR ON THE TIMING OF THEIR RATIFICATION. THEY ARE POSTPONING A DECISION UNTIL AFTER THEY HAVE RECEIVED THE SPANISH TEXT AND THE PR LEADERS AND DEPUTIES HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO DISCUSS THE TREATIES IN DETAIL WITH ONE OF THE NEGOTIATORS. PRESIDENT ROBLES HAS APPROVED A MEETING FOR THAT PURPOSE AND IT IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE SOMETIME DURING THE WEEK OF 24 JULY.

~~S-E-C-R-E-T NO FOREIGN DISSEM~~

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(C)

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(classification) (dissem controls)

2. SIMILAR MEETINGS WILL BE HELD WITH THE OTHER MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES DURING THE NEXT SEVERAL WEEKS. ROBLES HAS ASSURED PR LEADERS THAT HE WILL NOT AUTHORIZE THE SIGNING OF THE TREATIES UNTIL HE HAS HAD THE VIEWS OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES, AS WELL AS OF THE CABINET AND THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN RELATIONS.

3. [REDACTED] COMMENT: ROBLES WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE TREATIES SIGNED IN TIME TO SUBMIT TO A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON 1 SEPTEMBER. HOWEVER, IF THERE IS ANY SERIOUS DISUNITY WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT COALITION ON THE TREATIES, HE MAY WELL HAVE TO POSTPONE AT LEAST THE RATIFICATION UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTIONS IN MAY 1968. THIS DECISION WILL DEPEND UPON THE RESULTS OF THE MEETINGS OF THE PARTIES WITH THE NEGOTIATORS.)

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4. PR LEADERS ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF ROBLES' GOING TO WASHINGTON FOR THE SIGNING CEREMONY IN ANY CASE. THEIR REASONING IS THAT SUCH A TRIP IS UNNECESSARY AND WOULD GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF UNDUE PANAMANIAN DEFERENCE TO THE UNITED STATES.

5. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE, ARMY, NAVY, AIR, PANCANAL, CINCSO CINCLANT.

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